

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 05014 071957Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 HEW-04 /023 W  
-----080800Z 107486 /12

R 071352Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2527  
INFO AMCOUNSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 05014

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: UNINJC EIZ IN US

SUBJECT: PHARMACEUTICALS

REF: A) NEW DELHI 1301, B) NEW DELHI 4114

1. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION IN THE LOK SABHA, MINISTER BAHUGUNA SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT TAKE A DAY LONGER THAN NECESSARY FOR FINALIZING THE DECISIONS ON THE HATHE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ON RESTRUCTURING THE DRUG AND PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY. REFERRING TO THE FACT THAT THE REPORT IS NOW TWO YEARS OLD, HE ASSURED A QUESTIONER THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT TAKE AS LONG AS THE OTHER SIDE HAD DONE WHILE SITTING HERE.

2. FERNANDEZ CONFIRMS TO US THAT A POLICY FOR THE INDUSTRY HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO MAKE IT PUBLIC DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THIS WAS UNFORTUNATE, HE SAID, FOR NOW THE PLIOLICY MUST BE REVIEWED BY THE NEW GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THAT THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS WERE NOW ON MINISTER BAHUGUNA'S DESK. HE DESCRIBED THE NEW MINISTER AS A MAN OF ACTION, UNLIKE HIS PREDECESSORS AND EXPECTED THAT THE  
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 05014 071957Z

NEW POLICY WOULD BE APPROVED BY THE MINISTRY AND CABINET BY THE END OF MAY WITHOUT MUCH BUSUBSTANTIVE CHANGE.

3. IN RESPONSE TO OUR COMMENT THAT SOME LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF FOREIGN FIRMS HAD EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS ABOUT THE PRICING POLICY OF INDIVIDUAL DRUGS, HE SAID THAT THIS POLICY APPLIED TO ALL MAJANUFACTURERS AND OBVIOUSLY THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT

GOING TO MAKE IT UNPROFITABLE FOR PUBLIC SECTOR COMPANIES.

4. WHEN THE POLICY IS ANNOUNCED, FERNANDEZ WOULD LIKE TO APPEAR  
BEFORE THE PMA MEETING IN NEW YORK TO EXPLAIN IT. WE HOPE THAT  
THE PMA WILL BE AGREEABLE  
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, DRUGS, COMMITTEES, REORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NEWDE05014  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 3b3e81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 NEW DELHI 1301, 77 NEW DELHI 4114  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** TBIO, IN, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009